

I call on you to hold an official public hearing in my state.

Before the disastrous 2003 decision to weaken media ownership rules (which a federal court has now overturned), you held only one official public hearing. Further, FCC officials met behind closed doors 71 times with major broadcasters – but only five times with public interest groups. And to justify your actions, you used deceptive, industry-sponsored research data.

The will of Big Media had been heeded at the expense of American citizens and democracy itself. This has to end. Before you rewrite the ownership rules, I demand an official public FCC hearing in my state, impartial and verifiable research, and transparent debates.

It is time to put the needs of democracy – a diverse, skeptical, independent and competitive media system – ahead of profit-hungry media giants.

For the last time.. the public is THOROUGHLY OPPOSED to the loosening of restrictions on media ownership. It is not in our best interests. It will not make the quality of our news better, nor will it enrich our communities. In fact, it will make our news organizations far less representative, and may actually prove to be dangerous in situations where local disaster information is necessary. Media deregulation does NOT serve us well. We are the people you are appointed to serve, so listen to the public consensus and stop trying to push these terrible rules through.